

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRETOR 03500 221210Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02
SP-02 SS-15 ICA-20 OMB-01 ACDA-12 /119 W
-----019278 221212Z /53

P 221045Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
TO SECSTATE WAHSDC PRIORITY 1445
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY OTTOWA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

UNCLAS PRETORIA 3500

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PDEV, SF, WA
SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: OPPOSITION LEADER TELLS SAG NOT
TO GO IT ALONE

PFP OPPOSITION LEADER, COLIN EGLIN, TOLD REPORTERS ON
JUNE 21 THAT HE FELT THE SAG WAS TAKING /SERIOUS RISKS"
IN MOVING TOWARDS INDEPENDENCE IN NAMIBIA WITHOUT RETAINING
WESTERN SUPPORT. REFERRING TO ADMINISTRATOR GENERAL (AG)
STEYN'S ANNOUNCEMENT ON JUNE 20 OF VOTER REGISTRATION
(PRETORIA 3470), EGLIN SAID THAT HE COULD UNDERSTAND
FRUSTRATION AT THE LACK OF WESTERN RESPONSE TO THE SAG'S
ACCEPTANCE OF THE PROPOSAL AND THE DESIRE TO MOVE ON TO
INDEPENDENCE. ALTHOUGH THE REGISTRATION OF VOTERS WAS A
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"RELATIVELY NEUTRAL STEP .. FOR THE ADMINISTRATOR
GENERAL HIMSELF TO PROCEED FURTHER WITH ELECTIONS
AND TO DEFINE THE ROLE OF THE CONSITUENT ASSEMBLY
WILL MOST CERTAINLY BE PUTTING WESTERN SUPPORT AND
INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION AT RISK." THE AG, EGLIN
SAID, APPEARS TO BE GOING FURTHER THAN THE FOREIGN
MINISTER HIMSELF ON THIS MATTER. WHILE IT IS

"APPROPRIATE TO HAVE A TARGET DATE", EGLIN ADDED,
"THE DATE OF DECEMBER 31 SHOULD NOT BE REGARDED AS
SACROSANCT. THE DATE IN ITSELF SHOULD NOT BECOME
A FACTOR DOMINATING OUR DECISIONS AND DETERMINING
OUR COURSE OF ACTION." AT THE SAME TIME EGLIN
EMPHASIZED "THE IMPORTANCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL
COMMUNITY RESPONDING POSITIVELY TO THE WESTERN
PROPOSALS."
EDMONDSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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